



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

MICHAEL F. EASLEY  
GOVERNOR

1501 MAIL SERVICE CENTER, RALEIGH, N.C. 27699-1501

LYNDO TIPPETT  
SECRETARY

July 12, 2002

MEMORANDUM TO: Board of Transportation  
FROM: Lyndo Tippet  
SUBJECT: Political Signs

Attached for your information are copies of letters written to chairs of the Democratic, Republican, and Libertarian political parties addressing campaign signs on state rights-of-way.

Please give your division engineer a call, and he will brief you on the manner in which guidelines are being handled.

LT/bg

Attachments

cc: L. A. Sanderson, P.E., State Highway Administrator  
J. D. Goins, P.E., Chief Engineer – Operations  
Division Engineers



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July 11, 2002

Mrs. Barbara K. Allen, Chairperson  
North Carolina Democratic Party  
220 Hillsborough Street  
Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Barbara:

With the election season approaching, campaign workers of all political parties have begun to place signs advertising their candidates in yards, on utility poles, and, unfortunately, at locations within state highway rights-of-way.

Some of these signs can block motorists' view of oncoming traffic, which could create a serious safety problem. Sign posters on our rights-of-way not only add to the ongoing litter problem but also cause problems for our mowing operations.

According to North Carolina Administrative Code 2E.0415 entitled "**Advertising Signs within right of way**; It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to erect or place any advertising or other sign, except regulation traffic and warning signs approved by the Department of Transportation, on any highway or the right of way thereof, or so as to overhang the right of way, or to permit the erection or placing of any advertising or other sign, as herein prohibited, on any highway right of way which is situated over any land owned, rented, leased or claimed by such person, firm or corporation. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or other corporation that has erected, or placed, or permitted to be erected or placed, any advertising or other sign, as herein prohibited, or for any person, firm or corporation owning, renting, leasing or claiming any land over which a highway or highway right of way is situated, and on which highway or highway right of way and advertising or other sign has been erected or placed, to allow such advertising or other signs to remain on state highway or right of way thereof."

Since all campaign workers may not be aware of this regulation, the NC Department of Transportation would appreciate your assistance in distributing this information.

Mrs. Barbara K. Allen  
July 11, 2002  
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As has been the department's practice in the past, our maintenance field employees are continuing to remove signs that are illegally placed within state highway rights-of-way, as time permits. The signs are normally taken to local maintenance offices where they will be stored until claimed.

Your cooperation in this matter is appreciated. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Lyndo Tippet

LT/bg

cc: State Board of Elections  
Board of Transportation  
L. A. Sanderson, P.E., State Highway Administrator  
J. D. Goins, P.E., Chief Engineer-Operations